

**Amendments to the Claim:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1 (currently amended). A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of ~~a non-ischemic condition characterized by~~ acute inflammation of the lung or airways, the method comprising administering a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of an erythropoietin (EPO) to ~~the~~ an individual in need thereof.

2 (previously presented). Method according to claim 1 wherein the method is prophylactic.

3-4 (cancelled).

5 (previously presented). Method according to claim 1 wherein the effective amount of EPO is administered as a single dosage, regular or continued administration, or as a sequential administration.

6-19 (cancelled).

20 (currently amended). The method of claim 1 wherein said condition individual is suffering from exacerbations of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

21-22 (cancelled)

23 (currently amended). The method of claim 1 ~~wherein which~~ said individual is caused by suffering from a chemical trauma, or a physical obstruction, trauma or injury.

24 (cancelled).

25 (currently amended). The method of claim 1 wherein ~~the condition~~ said individual is suffering from asthma.

26 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, further comprising administration of an anti-inflammatory amount of  $\alpha$ -MSH.

27 (previously presented). The method of claim 26 wherein

the EPO and  $\alpha$ -MSH are administered simultaneously.

28 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, further comprising administration of an anti-inflammatory amount of an alpha-MSH equivalent which is a peptide comprising (a) the sequence Lys-Pro-Val, or (b) a sequence differing from (a) solely in that at least one of the L-amino acids of said sequence is replaced by the corresponding D-amino acid, which peptide binds to an alpha-MSH receptor and/or a melanocortin receptor, and thereby exercises anti-inflammatory activity.

29 (previously presented). The method of claim 28 wherein the peptide comprises the sequence Gly-Lys-Pro-Val (amino acids 10-13 of SEQ ID NO:1).

30 (previously presented). The method of claim 1, further comprising administration of an anti-inflammatory amount of an alpha-MSH equivalent which is a peptide comprising (a) the sequence His-Phe-Arg-Trp (amino acids 6-9 of SEQ ID NO:1), or (b) a sequence differing from (a) solely in that (i) at least one of the L-amino acids of said sequence is replaced by the corresponding D-amino acid and/or (ii) Phe is replaced with homo Phe or halogenated Phe, which peptide binds to an alpha-MSH receptor and/or a melanocortin receptor, and thereby exercises anti-inflammatory activity.

31-34 (cancelled).

35 (previously presented). The method of claim 44 in which the halogenated Phe is P-fluoro Phe.

36-38 (cancelled).

39 (previously presented). The method of claim 1 which is a method of treatment.

40 (previously presented). The method of claim 39 which further comprises administration of an anti-inflammatory amount of alpha-MSH.

41 (currently amended). The method of claim 39, further comprising administration of an anti-inflammatory amount of an

alpha-MSH equivalent which is a peptide comprising (a) the sequence Lys-Pro-Val, or (b) a sequence differing from (a) solely in that at least one of the L-amino acids of said sequence is replaced by the corresponding D-amino acid, which peptide binds to an alpha-MSH receptor and/or a melanocortin receptor, and thereby exercises anti-inflammatory activity.

42 (currently amended). The method of claim 39, further comprising administration of an anti-inflammatory amount of an alpha-MSH equivalent which is a peptide comprising (a) the sequence His-Phe-Arg-Trp (amino acids 6-9 of SEQ ID NO:1), or (b) a sequence differing from (a) solely in that (i) at least one of the L-amino acids of said sequence is replaced by the corresponding D-amino acid and/or (ii) Phe is replaced with homo Phe or halogenated Phe, which peptide binds to an alpha-MSH receptor and/or a melanocortin receptor, and thereby exercises anti-inflammatory activity.

43 (cancelled).

44 (previously presented). The method of claim 30, wherein the peptide comprises a sequence (b) in which the Phe of sequence (a) is replaced with homoPhe or a halogenated Phe.

45 (previously presented). The method of claim 30, wherein the peptide comprises a sequence (b) in which at least one of the L-amino amino acids in sequence (a) is replaced with the corresponding D-amino acid.

46 (previously presented). The method of claim 30, wherein said peptide further comprises the sequence Lys-Pro-Val.

47 (previously presented). The method of claim 42, wherein the peptide comprises a sequence (b) in which the Phe of sequence (a) is replaced with homoPhe or a halogenated Phe.

48 (previously presented). The method of claim 47, wherein the halogenated Phe is P-fluoro Phe.

49 (previously presented). The method of claim 42, wherein the peptide comprises a sequence (b) in which at least one of the

L-amino acids in the sequence (a) is replaced with the corresponding D-amino acid.

50 (currently amended). The method of claim ~~36~~ 28 wherein said peptide is a fragment, at least three amino acids long, of  $\alpha$ -MSH.

51 (new). The method of claim 28, wherein the peptide comprises a sequence (b) in which at least one of the L-amino amino acids in sequence (a) is replaced with the corresponding D-amino acid.

52 (new). The method of claim 41, wherein the peptide comprises a sequence (b) in which at least one of the L-amino amino acids in sequence (a) is replaced with the corresponding D-amino acid.

53 (new). The method of claim 1, wherein said individual is suffering from allergic rhinitis.

54 (new). The method of claim 1, wherein said individual is suffering from common cold.

55 (new). The method of claim 1, wherein said individual is suffering from airway infection.

56 (new). The method of claim 1, wherein said individual is suffering from side-effect of drugs or poisoning.